



# britannia beach

community visioning charrette

## **Britannia Centre for Mining Innovation**

## **project summary**

### **Project Summary for Work to be Completed by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)**

NRCan recently commissioned a preliminary investigation into the feasibility of establishing a mining related interpretive and research center at Britannia. The title for the project is the "Britannia Centre for Mining Innovation". Although still at an early stage of consideration, the study has demonstrated that this project, if it were to proceed, would be a significant part of the sustainable re-development of Britannia and would be recognized as providing a significant benefit to the citizens of Canada.

The conceptual design envisions a series of new contemporary structures, and the restoration of a number of the historical buildings, that will support mining and environmental research, international dialogue and conferences focused on issues of resource use/extraction and sustainable development, and a world class museum/public attraction. Together, these would showcase the past, present and future of sustainable mining development and minerals use. In addition, a significant interpretive component relating to the environment and the ecosystem of Howe Sound and how the Britannia Mine may have influenced changes within these systems could be included here. The concept for the centre can be thought of as a three-legged stool where social, environmental and economic considerations all support a sustainable institution. By utilizing Britannia as an example of how things used to be, the intention is to contrast industrial practices of the past with the new techniques, technologies and policies of today. The Centre has the potential to become a world class showcase for innovation in Canada to a domestic and international audience.

To achieve all this it is necessary to emphasize the planned inter-relationships for the various design components which are: a research centre, a dialogue and conference centre, an innovations gallery, and areas for interpretation of history and innovations and the museum experience. Together these components form the Britannia Centre for Mining Innovation.